

Letter from Mauro, Cameron, Lewis & Massie to Charles J. Bell, February 7, 1916

S. T. CAMERON. LAW OFFICES TELEPHONE Washington, Main 3461. REEVE LEWIS. of New York, 7550 Barclay. C. A. L. MASSIE. MAURO, CAMERON, LEWIS & MASSIE, CABLE ADDRESS: Mauro—Washington. W. B. KERKAM. Phimauro—New York. Patents and Patent Causes, Liebers. F. A. HOLTON. 700 TENTH ST., N. W., WASHINGTON, D. C. CODES USED: Western Union. RALPH L. SCOTT. Marconi. (Woolworth Bldg., 233 Broadway, New York.) **WASHINGTON**, Feb. 7, 1916. C. J. Bell, Trustee, American Security & Trust Co., City. Dear Mr. Bell:—

Agreeably to instructions received from you and Mr. Grosvenor, we sent Mr. Kerkam to Buffalo, and he spent Thursday at the Curtiss works, returning yesterday morning. We herewith enclose statement of what he learned. From this statement it will be apparent that while considerable information was obtained, nevertheless we did not obtain enough to entire satisfy us as to whether Curtiss was or was not infringing the A. E. A. patents. Mr. Tarbox knows that we represent the A. E. A., and it is not at all improbable that, under the guise of showing us everything and being very frank, he was in fact using that very means of misleading us and keeping under cover what they were really doing, if it was an infringement of our patents. The fact that he stated that there were no assembled machines whatever at the works is itself suspicious.

I think that our best move now is to go to Newport News and see the Curtiss machines in operation. On page 802 of "Flying", January 1916, we not only have the picture of the flying boat, but we have, under "Recent Performances", statements of a use of these boats in the United States on six different occasions within the year. This use constitutes an infringement just as much as the manufacture of the boat itself, and it is barely possible

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that we may be able to reach the Curtiss Co. by attacking someone of their customers, if we find that any of these customers are in fact using a machine infringing the patent.

Shall we send Mr. Kerkam to Newport News? If you think it best to do this, please get a letter of introduction from Col. Reber for Mr. W. B. Kerkam, and we will send him off promptly.

Very truly yours, Mauro Cameron Lewis & Massie, C-F Encs.